

School Groups: What To Do In Denali

Thank you for using Denali National Park and Preserve as your classroom! A variety of opportunities are available to educational groups visiting the park. Below are some suggested activities to enhance your visit to Denali. Please be aware that program schedules, facility hours of operation, road access, and ranger availability change with the seasons. Visitor services are limited and weather-dependent usually after early September and until late May.

Group leaders may apply for a waiver of entrance fees for educational groups. Please contact the Education Specialist at the Murie Science and Learning Center for more information and to obtain this form. Contact information is located at the bottom of this page.

Suggested Day Activities:

Take a Hike



There are a variety of established trails in the park entrance area. Each offers a great outdoor experience for groups of learners. These include the Horseshoe Lake Trail, Mount Healy Overlook Trail, Meadow View Trail, Rock Creek Trail, McKinley Station Trail, and Savage River Trail.

See the Denali Visitor Center The Denali Visitor Center (DVC) is open 8am to 6pm, May 15-Sept. 16. Dozens of interpretative exhibits showcase the natural and cultural history of the park, including pull-out drawers of winter vole burrows, pans of (fabricated) bear scat, a bilingual moose puzzle, and artifacts of park pioneers. The 17 minute feature film "Heartbeats of Denali" plays at the Karstens Theater throughout the day, Ranger-led programs are presented daily in the Karstens Theater, and Ranger-guided hikes are offered from the DVC.

Discover the Murie Science & Learning Center The Murie Science and Learning Center (MSLC) is a year-round education facility, and science outreach hub. A wolf skeleton guards the lobby. A half dozen kiosks feature park science conducted in Denali and other northern Alaska national parks. MSLC staff offer interactive science presentations throughout the summer.

Reserve a Ranger



Education programs for groups are available upon request, depending on availability. Please contact the Education Specialist at the Murie Science and Learning Center to learn more about program offerings and availability.

Visit the Kennel



Denali is home to a kennel of working sled dogs. Attend a Rangerled program or schedule a group visit to the kennels to meet the dogs and learn how they work together to protect Denali.

Tour by bus



In spring, summer, and fall, the park concessioner operates a variety of bus tours and shuttle buses into the park. To schedule transportation for your group, contact Doyon/ARAMARK Joint Venture at 800-622-7275. For more information visit the park web site under Plan Your Visit.

For Overnight Visits to Denali:

Evening Ranger-led interpretive programs about a variety of park

Programs resources are regularly scheduled for visitors during the summer season. Evening programs occur at a number of park campgrounds.

Camp out! A limited number of sites at the Savage River Campground may be

reserved for group use. Each site accommodates a maximum of 20

people. To reserve a group campsite, call 800-622-7275.

For more information about visiting Denali with an educational group please contact:

Kristen Friesen
Education Specialist
Murie Science and Learning Center
P.O. Box 9
Denali National Park, Alaska 99755
(907) 683-2294
kristen_friesen@nps.gov

Be Prepared!

Denali National Park and Preserve is a subarctic wilderness. Weather and environmental conditions can vary considerably in any season. Your students will have a positive learning experience if they come prepared with warm layers of clothing, rain or snow gear (depending on the season), appropriate footwear, and a desire to discover Denali.



Learn more about Denali and visiting the park at www.nps.gov/dena.

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Experience Your America